



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
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Press Release

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ATTORNEY GENERAL DARRELL V. MCGRAW, JR., ANNOUNCES NATIONAL POISON PREVENTION WEEK INITIATIVE

West Virginia Attorney General Darrell V. McGraw, Jr., in conjunction with the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission, launched National Poison Prevention Week with a reminder to consumers that last year over 100,000 children were involved in common household poisonings. "National Poison Prevention Week is a time to emphasize the responsibility that parents, grandparents and other care givers have in preventing these tragedies," said Attorney General McGraw. "I am confident we can reduce the risk of death and injury simply by following recommended safety precautions and first aid treatment."

Recommended Safety Precautions

1. Keep your Poison Control Center numbers by the telephone:

West Virginia Poison Control 1-800-642-3625
National Poison Control 1-800-222-1222

2. Store medicine and household chemicals in their original containers, out of the reach of children. Make sure storage cabinets and closets are equipped with child-resistant locks.

3. Use child-resistant packaging. Container lids should be closed tightly.

General First Aid Guidelines

1. Swallowed Poisons--Treatment depends on what was swallowed. Induce vomiting ONLY if emergency personnel tell you to do so. Some poisons will cause more damage if the child is made to vomit.

2. Poison in Eye--Eyes absorb pesticides faster than any other external part of the body. Eye damage can occur in a few minutes. If poison splashes into an eye, hold the eyelid open and wash quickly and gently with clean running water for at least 15 minutes.

3. Poison on Skin--Drench the area with water and remove contaminated clothing. Then wash skin and hair thoroughly with soap and water. Later, discard contaminated clothing or wash separately from other laundry.

4. Inhaled Poison--Take the victim to fresh air immediately. Loosen tight clothing. If the victim's skin is blue or the victim has stopped breathing, give artificial respiration and call 911 for help. Open doors and windows so fumes will poison no one else.

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